



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 – 2733

Office of the Regional Administrator

July 2, 2013

The Honorable Bill Cassidy  
Member, U.S. House of  
Representatives  
5555 Hilton Avenue, Suite 100  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808

Dear Congressman Cassidy:

Thank you for your letter of April 16, 2013, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the former Pointe Coupee Wood Treatment Site. Your constituent, Mr. Albert Labatut Jr., is requesting that the EPA conduct a removal action on his property, which is adjacent to the former wood treating facility.

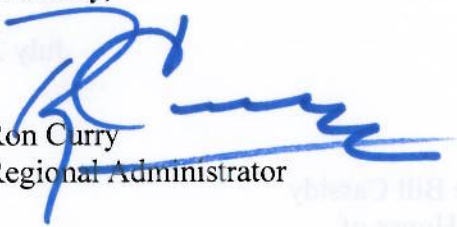
In May 2007, the EPA initiated a Removal Assessment of the Pointe Coupee facility based on the results of a previous assessment. This facility is adjacent to Mr. Labatut's property. On several occasions, the EPA approached Mr. Labatut to request continued property access, because sample results indicated the presence of contamination on his property. Mr. Labatut declined all requests from the EPA for access to his property.

In 2008, the EPA initiated a removal action at the site and extracted contaminated soil from properties for which the agency was able to secure written access. During the EPA's cleanup action, Mr. Labatut Jr. visited the site and voiced concern that the EPA had violated his property boundary. The EPA project manager explained that the property boundaries were marked with a temporary fence to ensure that we did not inadvertently enter his property. The EPA also explained that we had obtained written permission to access the properties where we were taking action, and reminded him that he had previously denied the EPA's requests for access. The removal action was completed in September of 2008, with the removal of the highly contaminated source material on the facility.

In 2012, Mr. Labatut Jr. approached the EPA and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality requesting cleanup action on his property. The LDEQ communicated that it had evaluated the current conditions at the site and prioritized it based on factors consistent with the National Priorities List. Based on the LDEQ's evaluation, the site would not rank. Both the EPA and the LDEQ are in accord on this assessment and have communicated the results of this evaluation with Mr. Labatut Jr.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (214) 665-2100, or your staff may contact Ms. LaWanda Thomas, Congressional Liaison, at (214) 665-7466.

Sincerely,

  
Ron Curry  
Regional Administrator



Office of the Regional Administrator

July 1, 2013

The Honorable Bill Cassidy  
Member, U.S. House of  
Representatives

5552 Hilton Avenue, Suite 100  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808

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